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BOROUGH OF STAMFORD.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Torkington House,

Stamford.

30th May, 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Gentlemen,

In presenting my 25th. Annual Report I am pleased to report that the good start in slum clearance has been maintained, 36 houses have been built and corresponding number of slum dwellings have been or will be demolished.

The estimated population in July 1937 was 10,130.

The Rateable value of the Borough is £54,988 and a penny rate produces £215. and the acreage is 1918 acres.

VITAL STATISTICS:-

		Total	M	F	
Live Births	Legitimate	134	66	68	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 14. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 27.58.
	Illegitimate	7	5	2	
Stillbirths	... ...	4	4		
Deaths		112	56	56	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 11.2.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):-

	Deaths.
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	0.
No. 30 Other puerperal causes ...	0.
Total	0.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births ... 70. 92.

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 74.6.

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	14.
Measles (all ages)	--.
Whooping Cough (all ages)	--.
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)..	1.
Tuberculosis of the lungs	18.
Pneumonia	2.
Bronchitis	2.

HEALTH SERVICES OF THE BOROUGH. (1) The Stamford, Rutland & General Infirmary, with which your Council has a Contract for the maintenance and treatment of cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria and enteric fever. It also provides general medical and surgical treatment for all diseases and includes a small maternity block. The staff consists of general surgeons supported by a body of specialists. There is also a resident House Surgeon. An orthopaedic clinic is held at the Infirmary and cases of surgical tuberculosis are treated on

special sun balconies.

(2) The Kesteven Poor Law Infirmary. Here are treated the aged, sick and mental defectives.

(3) The Kesteven Small-Pox Hospital at Shacklewell.

I have added a tabulated list showing the number of beds in each Institution and how they are or may be occupied.

THE CHILDREN'S HOMES. A branch of the Poor Law Institution is available for homeless children, but there is no provision for unmarried mothers or illegitimate children, as such.

AMBULANCES. (a) The Stamford Rutland and General Infirmary convey infective patients to hospital at your expense.

(b) The St. John Ambulance Brigade provide two ambulances for non-infective diseases, at a small charge, and for accidents gratuitously.

CLINICS. There is an Infant Welfare Clinic managed by a lay Committee and supervised by the Assistant County M.O.H.

The School Clinic is under the supervision of the County M.O.H.

There are no day nurseries, tuberculosis or venereal dispensaries.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES.

(a) part time ... M.O.H.

(b) " " Sanitary Inspector.

(c) " " Veterinary & Meat Inspector.

NURSING IN THE HOME. The Stamford Nursing Association, financed partly by members' contributions and partly by charitable people, employ two nurses - one for general nursing and one for midwifery; there is no provision for nursing any infectious disease in the home.

MIDWIVES. There are two registered as practising in the town.

CHEMICAL WORK. Your Council employs the Clinical Research Association in London to carry out examinations of swabs. The routine milk examination is in the hands of the police, who are employed by the County Council.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES. (1) Water. The supply is owned by the Marquess of Exeter, and has been fairly satisfactory both in quantity and quality, although it is very hard.

(2) River. The Welland runs through the Town, and is not seriously polluted.

(3) Drainage & Sewerage. Practically all houses are connected with the sewers. The Sewage Works are constantly being brought up-to-date, and a very good effluent is obtained.

(4) Scavenging. House refuse is collected, and carted to a tip and since we adopted the Bradford System of tipping there has been no nuisance.

(5) House-to-house Inspection. I am glad to report that steps have been and are still being taken to provide more cheap houses for those needing them. I here append the Sanitary Inspector's Report:-

"

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-
   (1)(a)Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ... 250.
   (b)No. of inspections made for the purpose ... 250.
   (2)(a)No. of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations,1925 --.
   (b)No. of inspections made for the purpose ... --.
   (3)No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... 110.
   (4)No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 23.

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices:-
   No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ... 23.

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-
   (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:
      (1)No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ... --.
      (2)No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
         (a) By owners ... ... --.
         (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... --.
   (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:
      (1)No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 1.
      (2)No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
         (a) By owners ... ... 1.
         (b) By Local Authority in default of owners --.
   (c) Proceedings under sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:
      (1)No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... 12.
      (2)No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... 12.
   (d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:
      (1)No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closings Orders were made --.
      (2)No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit --.

4. Housing Act, 1936. - Part IV. Overcrowding.

(a)(i)No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ... 45.
(ii)No. of families dwelling therein ... ... 45.
(iii)No. of persons dwelling therein ... ... 211.
(b)No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ... --.
(c)(i)No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ... 15.
(ii)No. of persons concerned in such cases ... ... 58.
(d)Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of the overcrowding. ---.

(e)Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report. ---. "

INSPECTION OF FOOD. Milk shops and dairies are inspected regularly and found fairly satisfactory. Slaughter-houses are inspected regularly, and some improvement is noticed from last year. I herewith append Mr. Gooch's report:-

"

Veterinary Infirmary, Horses, Dogs &c.,
St. Martin's,
Stamford. April 30 1938.

Public Health Regulations, 1924.

Gentlemen,

Your Inspector, in presenting his thirteenth Annual report, is again able to state that the regulations have been satisfactorily carried out, all the butchers being willing to assist your Inspector, and reporting anything they have discovered unsound.

During the year commencing April 3rd 1937 and ending March 26th 1938 6491 animals have been slaughtered in the town as against 6694 in 1937, a decrease of 183, viz: 697 beast, 31 calves, 2538 sheep, 294 lambs and 2931 pigs. Calves and lambs are the largest decrease whilst sheep is the only increase. Four whole carcases have been condemned viz: 2 beast, 2 pigs; whilst 5 parts of carcases have been condemned.

The condemned carcases work out at .001% of the animals slaughtered.

Average kill per week 125.8.

About the same quantity of frozen meat has been sold in the town.

Over 400 animals have been slaughtered outside the town for consumption in the town.

The stalls in the Friday Market have varied in number from 5 to 4 at the present time, one of which only sells bacon. There are three stalls selling fish.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) F.L.GOOCH, F.R.C.V.S.

Inspector. "

The Meat Inspector sees practically all animals slaughtered. There are 14 licensed slaughter-houses in the Borough: these have all been in existance since 1930.

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Bakehouses are inspected regularly and found satisfactory.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES. There has been remarkably little infectious disease in the Town during the past year. All cases of diphtheria, scarlet fever, and enteric fever may be removed to hospital, there is now hospital accommodation provided for measles or whooping cough at the Stamford Infirmary, at your expense. The following infectious diseases were notified during the year:-

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hosp.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	23.	23.	Nil.
Diphtheria	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Puerperal Fever	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Puerperal Pyrexia	3.	3.	Nil.
Pneumonia	3.	1.	2.
Other notifiable diseases (specify disease)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E.A.HUTTON-ATTENBOROUGH, M.B., B.S.

M.O.H. Borough of Stamford.

TABULATED LIST OF HOSPITALS.

HOSPITAL	MEDICAL & SURGICAL BEDS.			MATERNITY.	MENTAL DEFECTIVES.	INFECTIOUS DISEASES.	MANAGEMENT.
	MALE.	FEMALE.	CHILDREN.				
Stamford, Rutland and General Infirmary.	25.	25.	15.	6.	--	30.	Voluntary.
Kesteven Poor Law Infirmary.	26.	20.	--	3.	Male. 24. Female. 20.	--	Public Assistance Committee.
Stamford and District Small-Pox Hospital, situated at Shacklewell outside the Borough.	--	--	--	--	--	24. Could easily be extended.	Committee of Town and Rural District Councils.